

REMARKS

Introduction

Claims 1, 3-11, 38 and 39 are now presented for examination. Claims 2, 12-37 and 40-43 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1, 3-5 and 39 have been amended. Claim 1 is the only remaining independent claim. Favorable review is respectfully requested.

Examiner Interview Summary

The undersigned wishes to express his appreciation to the Examiner for the courtesies extended to applicants' undersigned attorney during a telephone interview on March 29, 2007. In that interview, the Examiner indicated that independent claim 1 would be allowable if the limitations of dependent claim 2 were incorporated into claim 1. The undersigned disputed the need for such amendment in light of the art of record, but agreed to amend now to provide the applicant with at least partial claim scope in a timely manner. The other claims discussed were also disputed as to allowability, and the undersigned indicated that, solely to advance prosecution, those claims would be cancelled to allow the amended subject matter herein to pass to earlier allowance.

Amendment of the claims

By this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitation of claim 2, and claim 2 has been cancelled. Claims dependent from claim 2 have been revised to depend from claim 1. All other claims, not dependent from claim 1, have been cancelled.

Confirming the undersigned's discussion in the interview, the undersigned disagrees with the Examiner's position with respect to the need for incorporating the limitation of claim 2 into claim 1 in light of the prior art. The present amendment is made solely to advance prosecution and to allow the applicant to obtain some incremental scope of protection while the broader claims the applicant believes it is entitled to are

pursued in a subsequent application. As discussed with the Examiner in the interview, the applicants will present the cancelled claims in a continuing application.

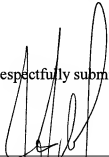
Conclusion

Based on the Examiner's agreement during the interview, amended independent claim 1 recites allowable subject matter. All the remaining claims in the application depend from amended claim 1 and are therefore believed to likewise recite allowable subject matter.

The applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

The applicants' attorney may be reached by telephone at 212-801-6729. All correspondence should continue to be directed to the address given below, which is the address associated with Customer Number 32361.

Respectfully submitted,



James J. DeCarlo
Reg. No. 36,120

Date: April 17, 2007

Customer Number 32361
GREENBERG TRAURIG, LLP
MetLife Building
200 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10166
Phone: (212) 801-9200
Fax: (212) 801-6400
E-mail: decarloj@gtlaw.com